

Date: Thu, 6 Oct 94 14:56:45 PDT
From: Info-Hams Mailing List and Newsgroup <info-hams@ucsd.edu>
Errors-To: Info-Hams-Errors@UCSD.Edu
Reply-To: Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu
Precedence: List
Subject: Info-Hams Digest V94 #1099
To: Info-Hams

Info-Hams Digest Thu, 6 Oct 94 Volume 94 : Issue 1099

Today's Topics:

2nd Floor Ground or No Ground?
CQ magazine paper quality
FOR SALE: 2-meter Multimode (REPOST)
Help identifying some SMT devices
Help needed from hams in northern NY and Vermont states
ICOM IC-W21A
Kenwood 241A AM sensitivity
Morse program for Amiga
newly licensed, looking for an HT
No code Techs and CW...
Packet WX Station Info?
RTTY Sked: DE, SD, ND
Sidebands on 2m
test --- ignore please

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu>
Send subscription requests to: <Info-Hams-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Info-Hams Digest are available
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/info-hams".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

Date: Wed, 5 Oct 1994 12:29:17 GMT
From: gary@ke4zv.atl.ga.us (Gary Coffman)
Subject: 2nd Floor Ground or No Ground?

In article <36puci\$4dl@sefl.satelnet.org> jmesser@satelnet.org (James Messer)
writes:

>I've recently moved into a new house, and my shack is now on the 2nd
>floor. This new location has provided me with few questions, one of
>which includes the ground for my rigs and antenna.

>
>Some folks say to keep a ground, even though the ground might be as long
>as 40 feet. Others say to do without a ground completely.
>
>Still others suggest using the existing ground that is used in the
>house's electrical system. To confuse things further, I've also seen the
>artificial grounds that are advertised in catalogs (MFJs, for instance).
>
>So, what to do? What options do I actually have? What are others
>on the 2nd floor doing? Any suggestions would be appreciated.

There are three reasons for a station ground. One is electrical safety. That's adequately supplied by the third wire connection in your electrical service. Two is lightning protective grounding. That's a complex subject if you want to be able to keep your equipment connected and operating during storms. It can be done from a second floor shack, however. The alternative is to always disconnect your equipment from antennas, power, and telco when not operating, and never operate in storms. The third reason is to supply an RF counterpoise for an unbalanced antenna. That's difficult from the second floor. A better alternative is to only use balanced antennas, or to use tuned wire counterpoises.

As operation from cars and planes demonstrate, you don't need a connection to Earth in order to radiate an effective signal.

Gary

--

Gary Coffman KE4ZV		You make it,		gatech!wa4mei!ke4zv!gary
Destructive Testing Systems		we break it.		emory!kd4nc!ke4zv!gary
534 Shannon Way		Guaranteed!		gary@ke4zv.atl.ga.us
Lawrenceville, GA 30244				

Date: 6 Oct 94 16:59:43 GMT
From: William=E.=Newkirk%Pubs%GenAv.Mlb@ns14.cca.rockwell.COM
Subject: CQ magazine paper quality

>My questionn is: Are there any other CQ-subscribers/readers
>that share my experience? If this is a common problem, due
>to the paper/binding quality perhaps a note to CQ would be in

i think this has been talked about by folks like Wayne Green, Hugh Hefner, and others in the magazine publishing business.

the cost of paper has been skyrocketing. fortunately there have been breakthroughs in ink and paper combinations that permit virtually tissue thin

pages yet ink that won't rub off on your hands. compare 50 or 100 pages of today's publications to 50-100 pages of 25-30 year old magazines to see a difference.

probably CQ needs to consider going to what's called a "perfect binding" like QST has. i say this because i recall CQ is saddle stitched and the point where the staples go through the paper are high stress points.

putting the mag in a bag would help.

bill wb9ivr

Date: 6 Oct 1994 18:14:31 GMT
From: kedz@banach.WPI.EDU (John Kedziora)
Subject: FOR SALE: 2-meter Multimode (REPOST)

In article <phb.781447125@melpar>, phb@syseng1.melpar.esys.com (Paul H. Bock) writes:

|>
|> FOR SALE: Yaesu FT-290R Mk II 2-meter SSB/CW/FM multimode, 25 w.
|> output, 10 memories, 2 VFOs, scan. Absolutely mint, new condition,
|> one month old. \$500.00 OBO and I'll pay shipping. Very nice
|> compact radio, but I prefer a HF rig & transverter setup.
|>
|> (|_|) Paul H. Bock, Jr. K4MSG Internet: pbock@melpar.esys.com
|> | |) Telephone: (703) 560-5000 x2062 (work)
|> (703) 882-4745 (home)
|>

I tried e-mailing and it bounced.

anywho would you consider a trade for something?? if so what are you looking for?

John Wu3c

Date: Wed, 5 Oct 1994 20:26:06 GMT
From: zlau@arrl.org (Zack Lau (KH6CP))
Subject: Help identifying some SMT devices

Todd Little (little@iamu.chi.dec.com) wrote:

: I purchased a couple "black boxes" at a recent hamfest and am trying to
: figure out what they are. They are built using surface mount devices
: and I don't recognize the part numbers. Can anyone help me identify the

: following components?

: NEC part 8002 - appears to be 3 terminal white ceramic device as follows:

: |o|
: = | | =
: |o|

This is a +28 dBm medium power C band GaAs FET.

To operate this, you will need a negative bias supply and a drain supply that is either current limited or sequenced to the negative supply. Shorting out the gate supply should disable the drain supply--otherwise the FET may be fried.

I'd bias the device with 0.3 amps at 9 volts. The gate ought to handle -10 volts. If I had the test equipment, I'd sweep it between 3 and 10 GHz.

--

Zack Lau KH6CP/1 2 way QRP WAS
 8 States on 10 GHz
Internet: zlau@arrl.org 10 grids on 2304 MHz

Date: 5 Oct 1994 14:07 -0500
From: hirschj@vax2.concordia.ca (JACK HIRSCHBERG)
Subject: Help needed from hams in northern NY and Vermont states

I am the manager of a boys hockey in the Montreal region. They are 12 and 13 years old and classified as PeeWee level B. I would like to arrange some games for them with same level teams in the northern NY and Vermont regions. The games could be played in the US, in Montreal, or both. If any hams in the region could get me the names and phone numbers of some coaches I could contact, I would appreciate it. If you don't have any contacts for me, I would appreciate it if you would spread the word about my request over the radios. All replies should be either by email at:

 HIRSCHJ@vax2.concordia.ca
or voice phone: (514) 620-7171.
Thanks for your cooperation.

73,
Jack Hirschberg

Thanks,

Mafu Benton, PC Software,	Work: mafu@hmso.demon.co.uk	
HMSO, Norwich, NR3 1DN.	Standard disclaimers apply.	

Date: 5 Oct 1994 13:24:46 GMT
From: drumhell@claudette.nrl.navy.mil (David Drumheller)
Subject: newly licensed, looking for an HT

In article <Cx5z47.6pA@poly.edu> pzelicof@poly.edu (Paul Zelicoof) writes:

>
>I just got my no-code tech license (but I didn't get my call sign yet)
>and so I started reading up on types/models of portable radios (HTs?).
>I think I want to get a 2m HT, 5 Watt, with the number pad.
>Are there any suggestions about what I should get?
>

Paul,

My sister-in-law received her no-code tech license this past summer, and she bought the Kenwood TH-22AT, as did I. We're both very happy with it. It run 5 watts with a 12 volt supply, so it makes a good mobile rig if you use a good mobile antenna. It's also quite compact, so you can walk around with it without looking like some sort of nerd. (The older HT's were about the size of a large brick.)

When we went shopping for an HT we collected specification sheets on about 10 different HTs produced by recognized manufactures. (Kenwood, Alnico, Yeaseu, etc.) I was surprised to find that numbers we almost the same for all of them, e.g., same sensitivity, same selectivity, same functionality, same number of memory, etc. So from a technical point-of-view, it didn't matter which HT we picked. So we just picked the one that we were most comfortable using from an ergonomic point-of-view.

The comments above apply only to the HT's that have a broadband receiver in them, and allow you to receive police, fire, and aircraft communication. If you don't want any of that, then I recommend you consider the Radio Shack HTX-202 2 meter rig. It's a little bigger than most HT's, but it runs 7 watts on a 12 volt supply, and receives only on the amateur 2 meter band. Receiving only in the 144-148 mHz band means that the receiver is more selective, so it does not suffer as much from 'intermod' interference from other services, something that does happen on my little Kenwood.

-Dave

--

David Drumheller, KA3QBQ phone: (202) 767-3524
Acoustics Division, Code 7140 fax: (202) 404-7732
Naval Research Laboratory
Washington, DC 20375-5350 e-mail: drumhell@claudette.nrl.navy.mil

Date: Thu, 6 Oct 1994 07:48:30 -0400
From: roh033.mah48d@rohmmaas.com (John E. Taylor III)
Subject: No code Techs and CW...

In article <36s7uh\$khb@nntp1.u.washington.edu>, ryanm@u.washington.edu
(Ryan Mcneilly) wrote:

>
> Slaming the NCT as lazy is a dumb approach. All I needed was a regional
> emergency to spark the desire to get the code out of the way and get my
> general. The Central Washington fires this year provided an opportunity
> to see what HF could do for us in ARES. We also found that there weren't
> enough generals or above to allow us to keep a 24hour HF station online
> at one of the firebases. This is another reason for my desire to get my
> general. By all means shame the ones that don't want any distinctions
> between licenses since this is the Communist form of Hamming :)
>
> I would suggest showing new NCT hams what HF offers in CW, voice, data,
> and video rather than shame them. Shaming me has the opposite effect on
> me then what was desired, I get in your face and slam back. I won't go
> away. I became hooked on hamming when I saw what could be done with
> voice on FM repeaters on 2m.
>
> I may not get it till Jan or Feb but I am working on it! --Ryan

Go for it, Ryan! Lots of us forget that amateur radio covers a tremendous range of activity and interest, and it's hard to even sample all of it. Anybody who wants to put down a no-code Technician should consider whether he's tried EME or ATV or microwave communication himself. There are people who are exemplary hams and excellent operators, who hold Tech or no-code Tech tickets. Many of the people who enter ham radio with these tickets upgrade, but there's certainly nothing wrong with those who don't, if VHF/UHF operation meets their needs. We have a club that has been around for 20 years, but that right now is built on Novices, Techs and no-code Techs, or people who have recently upgraded from those licenses, with just a few of us OFs around. As far as I am concerned, the no-code Tech ticket has revitalized amateur radio.

So there!

--

John Taylor (W3ZID) | "The opinions expressed are those of the
roh033.mah48d@rohmmaas.com | writer and not of Rohm and Haas Company."

Date: Wed, 5 Oct 94 10:20:33 -0500
From: jsanfilippo@delphi.com
Subject: Packet WX Station Info?

Does anyone have experience with a weather station that auto-
matically logs wx data to a remote computer via packet?

Thanks.

Joe San Filippo WZ5R
Las Cruces, NM

Date: 5 Oct 1994 23:47:39 GMT
From: plaws@comp.uark.edu (Peter Laws)
Subject: RTTY Sked: DE, SD, ND

gerheim@sonalysts.com (Al Gerheim) writes:

>I need a few states including DE, SD, and ND on RTTY. I can
>work 80 - 10 with WARC, minus 40 meters due to EMI problems
>with an old PC. RSVP!

> 73 - AL

Our club is also looking for ND as #50 (worked) on RTTY ... Same conditions
(but our 40 m EMI is under control ... barely!).

I'm also willing to get on for anyone that needs AR ... Though we're not
that rare.

73,
Peter Laws, N5UWY - V31WY

Public Information Officer,
Club Historian,
Past President,
Amateur Radio Club,
University of Arkansas / W5YM (<- 1st Ark wireless station, 1st Ark RTTY)

Peter Laws<plaws@comp.uark.edu>|"Suppose you were a politician. Now suppose you
n5uwy@ka5bml.#nwar.ar.usa.noam |were an idiot. Ah, but I repeat myself."-Twain

Date: Wed, 5 Oct 1994 11:54:46 +0000
From: Mike@g4kfk.demon.co.uk (Mike Gathergood)
Subject: Sidebands on 2m

Hi Daniel,

> I have just acquired a IC-22A 2M transceiver and noticed that there
> is a difference in the sideband used for receiving 144-146 and 146-148. Why
> is this done, and is it critical? Thanks.
>
> Does anyone know what the difference between the 144-146 version and
> the 146-148 version is? Other than the difference in the sideband used?

All amateur SSB transmissions above 10 MHz use USB (upper sideband) by
convention.

However, the Icom IC-22A is an FM-only transceiver, so SSB reception ain't
possible anyway.

73
Mike
G4KFK

* The CQ Centre BBS * Node 1 - 01753 595468 * Node 2 - 01753 593524 *
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* Tel 01753 582085 * Fax 01753 592726 * Mail mike@g4kfk.demon.co.uk *

Date: 5 Oct 1994 14:01 -0500
From: hirschj@vax2.concordia.ca (JACK HIRSCHBERG)
Subject: test --- ignore please

test

Date: 5 Oct 1994 22:24:58 -0400
From: wb2mpk@gti.gti.net (Glen Johnson)

References<35nahg\$dvh@gerald.cc.utexas.edu> <367kh6\$o2k@hpbab.mentorg.com>,
<781196025snz@microvst.demon.co.uk>

Subject: Re: reciprocal licences/licenses UK/USA

: >
: > Well, true enough ...
: > I took all of the theory, tech -> extra in one sitting, I just agreed
: > with the administering VE that they would keep passing me the next paper
: > providing that I passed the one before it. Not exceedingly difficult, you
: > just have to be prepared to sit there a bit longer than everyone else.
: >

: This is not any special deal. For the fixed fee of around \$5.00 per session
: you are absolutely entitled during any one session to take the theory papers
: in continuous ascending order, so long as you pass each the previous one and
: also, if necessary, take the code tests in decending order until you pass
: one of those.

You know, I'm sure this is no big deal, but its the first time I ever saw
it happen live and in person, so I still can't get over it :)

Last Thursday I was at a VE session, trying to nail the Extra. There was
me and another guy taking the 20 code test. They played the tape and I
was sitting there sweating bullets missing letters left and right. Very
high stress situation for me :) When it was over, I had this mass of
barely intelligible letters on the paper. I passed, hitting 8 of 10 on
the multiple choice code test. The OTHER guy, just sat there cool as a
cuke writing script like he was taking dictation. His copy was perfect.
100%. No mistakes. 500 characters. We were stunned because the guy has NO
LICENSE!

So he takes element 2 and aces it. Aces 3A and aces 3B. Says he studied
as far as General and that was it. They gave him the Advanced (4A) just
for kicks. He hit 44 of 50 on the Advanced. They wanted to give him the
Extra written, but he wouldn't take it! He just steadfastly refused no
matter how hard the VEs worked him over. What a disappointment!

--

Glen Johnson - wb2mpk@gti.net

Manager: GEnie Sports RoundTable

Radio & Electronics RT

Fantasy Sports Leagues RT

GEnie address: SPORTS

RADIO.RT

Date: Wed, 5 Oct 1994 12:19:02 GMT

From: gary@ke4zv.atl.ga.us (Gary Coffman)

References<36he80\$rcp@paperboy.gsfc.nasa.gov> <36ktsh\$t3n@newsbf01.news.aol.com>,
<36tg7r\$fk2@freenet3.scri.fsu.edu>

Reply-To: gary@ke4zv.atl.ga.us (Gary Coffman)

Subject: Re: Courtesy In Amateur Radio

In article <36tg7r\$fk2@freenet3.scri.fsu.edu> chuck62@freenet3.scri.fsu.edu
(Charles Richards) writes:

> I want to ask you guys for your opinion concerning repeater courtesy. I
> just got my tech ticket 2 weeks ago. When I'm monitoring, I'll say
> "KE4QPU monitoring" about every 15-30 min. Of course, I am careful not to
> interfere with anybody's communications, and to keep in mind that I am
> actually "borrowing" somebody's equipment (the repeater). I hear very few
> other hams in this area saying that they are monitoring. Not wanting to
> sound like a "Lid", I asked several local hams if this was a nuisance and
> they all said it was OK, but they just didn't bother doing it. I have
> made some very interesting contacts this way, including a guy passing
> through on Amtrak with his HH HTX-202 (W6WWP?)!
> What you say?...

I always announce my call when I turn on the rig, the repeater is
quiet, and I'm willing to chat with anyone who responds. I don't
say "monitoring", that should be self-evident. I drum up a lot of
conversations that way. It's considered standard procedure around
our repeater group.

Gary

--

Gary Coffman KE4ZV		You make it,		gatech!wa4mei!ke4zv!gary
Destructive Testing Systems		we break it.		emory!kd4nc!ke4zv!gary
534 Shannon Way		Guaranteed!		gary@ke4zv.atl.ga.us
Lawrenceville, GA 30244				

Date: 5 Oct 1994 23:50:10 GMT

From: plaws@comp..uark.edu (Peter Laws)

References<199409280329.UAA18250@ucsd.edu> <94272.131125JBAAK31@MAINE.MAINE.EDU>,
<36uf4l\$m7c@monet.ecs.soton.ac.uk>

Subject: Re: university ham clubs

ljv92@ecs.soton.ac.uk (L J Volante) writes:

>Is there any more life out there ?

Plenty!! Subscribe yourself to HAM-UNIV, a mailing list (send mail to

listserv@listserver.njit.edu with SUBSCRIBE HAM-UNIV YOUR NAME in the message).

>Was any "Universities or Higher Ed." 'net ever started up on the air?

We did this back in 1993/94. Limited success. I would be willing to participate again though ...

73,
Peter Laws, N5UWY - V31WY

Public Information Officer,
Club Historian,
Past President,
Amateur Radio Club,
University of Arkansas / W5YM

Peter Laws<plaws@comp.uark.edu>|"Suppose you were a politician. Now suppose you n5uwy@ka5bml.#nwar.ar.usa.noam |were an idiot. Ah, but I repeat myself."-Twain

Date: 6 Oct 1994 18:58:46 GMT
From: ron@fc.hp.com (ron miller)

References<62962.hberg@sun.sws.uiuc.edu> <36v65t\$aoq@tadpole.fc.hp.com>,
<36vag1\$dqv@hplvec.lvld.hp.com>
Subject: Re: Courtesy in Amateur Radio

Scott Turner (scott@lvld.hp.com) wrote:
: ron miller (ron@fc.hp.com) wrote:

: : "monitoring" sounds so uncommitted. Everytime I hear it I silently
: : respond with ' so what? Do you want a medal or something?'

I've been thinking this thought since about 1977 by the way. Some things won't change (neither the awkward language nor my distaste for it.)

: That's too bad. Consider the newcomer's plight. On the one hand, local
: conventions suggest certain practices. Since they're the new kid on the
: block, they conform. Then the non-conformest silently ridicules them
: for their conformity. Nobody wins.

I agree that nobody wins by hassling newbies. Also note that I did not suggest that I correct anybody at any time. (I don't think I've transmitted yet in 1994. Maybe not in 1993 either. I talked all day with N0MFW in '92 though.....)

: (BTW, why is it that Q signals are "bad" on phone, but CQ is okay?
: Consistency would suggest "Calling any station, from Callsign,
: C-A-L-L-S-I-G-N, go ahead" or something.

: Some of these procedures seem much too poorly thought out to pounce on
: a violation.)

I really think it's more a matter that some folks just wear their shorts a bit
to tight.

Around this area, DFW, "callsign" is about all that is needed on most of the
repeaters to get a response.

Mike
KC5GRW

Date: Thu, 6 Oct 1994 17:37:27 GMT
From: ehare@arrl.org (Ed Hare (KA1CV))

References<dclydesdale.1.2E915BF7@bfsec.bt.co.uk> <hawley.781284465@aries>,
<markeh-051094140052@markeh.slip.netcom.com>
Subject: Re: Interference with a garage door

MarkH (markeh@netcom.com) wrote:

:>>Just wondering if any one else is having problems with valematic automatic
:>>remote control garage doors? I seem to have real probs on 80m especially on
:>>cw. The garage door actually starts to go up and down!

: I had a similar problem, and fixed it by putting a small capacitor (I don't
: remember the exact value, but I don't think its really critical) across the
: leads of the control switch at the opener.

If this doesn't work, I would try common-mode chokes on all the wires
leading to the control unit. Most of the time, it is the wires that are
actually picking up the signal, acting as an antenna. Try F- or FT-140-43
ferrite toroids. (Available from Amidon, Palomar, etc.)

: Capacitor on - - no problem. Now
: I need to fix my hi-fi amplified subwoofer. Everytime I transmit on 40 or
: 80, a tremendous (400 watt) audio BOOM. Really shakes up the cats....hi

DO NOT try the capacitor across the speaker leads. Some solid-state
amplifiers are unstable into a very capacitive load like this would present.
They can break into a full-power, usually ultrasonic oscillation, sometimes
resulting in the fast demise of the audio-output transistors. Use a

common-mode choke as described above.

The ARRL Automated Electronic Mail Server, info@arrl.org, has a number of RFI files. I also recommend our book, Radio Frequency Interference -- How to Find It and Fix It. Contact djahnke@arrl.org for ordering information.

73 from ARRL HQ, Ed

: Good luck 73 Mark KM6FM

--

Ed Hare, KA1CV, ARRL Laboratory, 225 Main, Newington, CT 06111
203-666-1541 ehare@arrl.org

End of Info-Hams Digest V94 #1099
